



STATE OF WISCONSIN

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Commercial Buildings Frequently Asked Questions Ventilation

IBC 1018.5 An existing school (Pre-ICC) proposes to change the HVAC system from unit ventilators to a central ventilation system. The existing school has transfer grills in the door and utilizes the existing corridors for air movement. Given the alterations to the HVAC system may the existing corridors continue to be utilized for air movement?

Answer: Yes, as long as the corridors are existing, they may continue to be utilized for air movement. Only those corridors constructed under the IBC will be subject to the Section 1018.5 prohibition on use of corridors for air movement.

SPS Table 364.0403 I have a space with a use that is not an exact match to one of the uses listed in SPS Table 364.0403. The most similar occupancy listed in SPS Table 364.0403 says "NR" in the exhaust column of SPS Table 364.0403, does this mean that no exhaust is required?

Answer: No. Although picking the most similar occupancy is appropriate for the "general people ventilation" of occupancies that relates to fresh outside air, the same is not true for exhaust. If there is not an occupancy match in Table 364.0403, refer to IMC chapter 5 to determine if exhaust is required and how much exhaust is needed to create the expected air quality.

Before Wisconsin adopted the IMC, almost all ventilation and exhaust requirements were contained in a table in SPS 364. The IMC breaks ventilation and exhaust requirements into two chapters. When it comes to exhaust, Table 364.0403 is not the driver to require mechanical exhaust ventilation except where there is an exact match. (May 24, 2011)